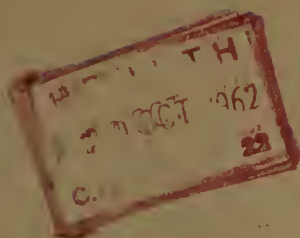


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BOROUGH OF HELSTON

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ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT
1961

HEALTH COMMITTEE - 1961/62

Chairman - Alderman F.E. STRIKE, B.E.M.

Vice - Chairman Alderman F.J. MOYLE

Alderman J.H. THOMAS

Alderman J.A.S. PASCOE

Councillor F. ZIEMANN, J.P.

Councillor R.L. ROGERS

Councillor C. BASSETT

Councillor A.E. LEE

Councillor W.H. SCOTT

Councillor J.O.W. NOYE

Councillor V.S. TEARNEY

Councillor M.G. GALE

Councillor G. ANDREWS

Councillor J.B. GILBERT

Councillor W.V.C. CURNOW

Councillor C.L. HOLLANDS

No. 2 AREA HEALTH SUB-COMMITTEE

Alderman F.E. STRIKE, B.E.M.

P R E F A C E

Public Health Department,
The Guildhall,
HELSTON

April, 1962

To His Worship the Mayor and Members of the Borough Council

Your Worship, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1961 in accordance with regulations 5 (3) and 15 (5) of the Public Health Officers (Outside London) Regulations 1959.

The growth of the Borough continues with the erection of 70 new private dwellings and 20 Council houses. The population has increased from 6,840 last year to 6,960, the largest ever increase since the boundary extensions in 1934. The natural increase, excess of births over deaths was 79, giving a rate of 12.77 per 1,000 population.

Much of the Department's housing work has been spent on Slum Clearance and control of caravans. Three areas comprising 17 houses were represented and 16 individual houses declared unfit. Supervision of caravans under the Caravan Sites & Control of Development Act, 1960, has now been firmly established after the original survey for the up grading of conditions on licensed sites in accordance with the model standards. In the Borough there are 7 sites comprising 52 seasonable caravans and 81 residential caravans. The position of caravan dwellers in the Borough must be carefully watched because of the demand for housing from service families connected with Culdrose Naval Air Station. At the time of writing this report further house building by the Admiralty is contemplated. It has been suggested that some houses be built in the Borough and others some distance from the town. The Council has decided to vigorously resist this proposal, and I believe that unless all the houses needed for service families are located in the Borough, there will be a further demand for residential caravan sites. Of the 81 residential caravans in the Borough, 41 are occupied by short stay service families but the remaining 40 vans must never be regarded as an acceptable permanent answer to the housing needs of the Borough. The proper way to supply homes for the community is by traditional building. In the short term one has no quarrel with the large purpose-built residential caravans with adequate insulation, heating and space, but small trailer-type vans which are not deisgned for all-the-year round occupation, are not suitable homes in which to raise families. During the abnormal weather of last winter there must have been some hardship for young children in poorly insulated vans and a very great fire risk. My experience is that caravans are expensive homes. In this area the average weekly rent is over £2.0.0d and if the family are purchasing a large residential van the mortgage over a short period would be over £4.0.0d per week, not much less than a new house mortgage.

A Government Social Survey published at the beginning of the year showed that throughout the country over 20,000 old people received meals in their homes from some 460 local meals on wheels schemes. In January the Borough Council agreed to contribute to the cost of providing a meals on wheels service for 12 persons twice a week. Voluntary organisations have found the remainder of the money and have been responsible for the operation of the scheme.

All the principal vital statistics for 1961 show a decrease from last year except for the respiratory tuberculosis incidence rate which increased from 0.15 cases per 1,000 population to 0.43. Last year no deaths occurred under the age of 1 month but this year 2 babies died under 1 week giving a neo-natal mortality of 11.83 deaths per 1,000 total live births.

The percentage of cancer deaths rose from 6.42 to 17.78, part of this increase being due to an increase in the deaths from lung cancer.

Circular 1/62 requesting the preparation of the report of the Medical Officer of Health asks for comments on the arrangements for sewage and sewage disposal in the Borough. These will be found in the body of the report.

I desire to express my thanks to my Chairman, Members of the Committee, Officers of the Council, and the staff of the Public Health Department and the Health Area Office for their work throughout the year.

I am,
Your Obedient Servant,
J.A.W. REID,
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Area Health Office,
Station Hill,
REDRUTH

Tel. No. Redruth 711/2

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

For the Year ended 31st December, 1961.

Public Health Department,
The Guildhall,
HELSTON.

To His Worship the Mayor and Members of the Borough Council.

Your Worship and Gentlemen,

The past year has been a steady progress in slum clearance, the remedy of nuisances and tracing of defective sewers and drains.

Lectures were given to traders in clean food handling, and whilst the response was poor in numbers, those who did attend made up for the lack of numbers in their enthusiasm. It is hoped to hold further courses in the forthcoming Winter months.

Helston Slaughterhouse continues to export a very large amount of meat and this will cause much research into methods of transport if the railway line is to close, and the effect upon our livestock market is problematical.

Problems associated with refuse collection and disposal have been given much thought, to the extent that a Joint Committee comprising Truro Rural, Falmouth Borough, Penryn Borough, Kerrier Rural and Helston Borough has been formed to try and find an economical answer to the uncontrolled "Controlled" tipping method of disposal. It is to be regretted that the Government will not give its blessing to composting which would add to the national economy, and ease the expensive burden of obtaining soil for covering down.

Sewerage and disposal problems have once again occupied much thought and fuller details are given within the body of the report.

Housing continues to be the biggest problem of all. At the moment there seems to be no easy answer, and the housing list continues to grow at a rate quicker than houses are built. It is to be regretted that rates of interest on mortgages remains so high, as house ownership is to my mind the only economical answer, with consequent saving in administration costs, repairs, rate contributions and subsidies; with of course an increasing population of people with a stake in our country. Perhaps the answer is an extension in some form of the Improvement Grant System.

I would once again thank all members of the staff for their loyal co-operation, enthusiasm and ideas and to the Council for its cordial reception of ideas and suggestions and their support of the staff.

I am, Gentlemen,
Your Obedient Servant,

N.E. Whitby

Chief Public Health Inspector.

SECTION A - Statistics of the Area

1. General Statistics

Area of the district in acres	4,017
Population of the area	6,960
Total number of inhabited houses (Private & Council)	2,401
Total number of Council houses	610
Number of sub-standard houses	750
Number under demolition order	25
Total number of caravans (residential & seasonable)	133
Total number of residential caravans	81
Estimate of sub-standard caravans	2
Ratio houses to residential caravans	18 : 1
Rateable value	£81,822
Product of the penny rate	£326

2. Physical and Social Conditions

(a) Description of the Area

The Borough of Helston is the market town and port for the surrounding rural area in which agriculture, building construction, stone quarrying and fishing are the principal occupations. The tourist trade brings great increase in traffic and it is estimated that the population trebles itself during the holiday months.

(b) Employment in the Area

Mr. A.M. Stokes, Manager of the Employment Exchange has kindly supplied the following information relating to employment, unemployment, disablement and rehabilitation in the area.

The principal industries in Helston and the surrounding areas are:-

<u>Industry</u>	<u>Men</u>	<u>Women</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Agriculture	515	73	588
Fishing	35	-	35
Stone Quarrying	73	4	82
Bread & Flour Confectionery (Making)	16	2	18
Engineering	8	3	11
Rope, Twine and Net Making	7	11	18
Building Construction	451	5	456
Gas, Electricity & Water Supply ...	43	3	46
Transport Undertakings	262	50	312
Distributive Trades	317	298	615
Insurance, Banking & Finance	52	17	69
Professional Services	160	302	462
Public Administration	459	37	496
Miscellaneous Services	229	407	636
Totals	<u>2,632</u>	<u>1,212</u>	<u>3,844</u>

(c) Unemployment

128 men and 87 women were unemployed at the end of the year. The industries most affected were:-

<u>Men</u>	<u>Women</u>
Agriculture	Distributive Trades
Fishing	Hotel & Catering
Building Construction	Miscellaneous
Hotel and Catering	
Miscellaneous	

(d) Disablement

The number of disabled persons on the Disabled Persons Register were:-

	<u>Men</u>	<u>Women</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Surgical	62	6	68
Medical	33	3	36
Psychiatric	5	-	5
Others	11	1	12
<u>Totals</u>	<u>111</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>121</u>

(e) Analysis of Unemployed Registered Disabled Persons on Live File for April 1961

	<u>Men</u>	<u>Women</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Surgical	4	-	4
Medical	7	-	7
Psychiatric	1	-	1
Others	1	-	1
<u>Totals</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>13</u>

(f) Rehabilitation

Four men and One woman entered the Industrial Rehabilitation Unit during the year and Eight men were accepted for training at a Government Training Centre.

(g) Sickness Morbidity

I am indebted to Mr. T.W.E. Smout, Manager, Ministry of National Insurance, Helston, for the following table giving the number of new claims of sickness benefit for 1961:-

January	...	320
February	...	208
March	...	260
April	...	165
May	...	161
June	...	94
July	...	112
August	...	123
September	...	119
October	...	143
November	...	199
December	...	227
		<u>2,131</u>

3. Vital Statistics

(a) <u>Live Births</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>Rate</u>
Total	79	90	169	
Legitimate	78	87	165	
Illegitimate	1	3	4	
Birth Rate (Crude)				24.28
Comparability Factor				0.92
Adjusted Birth Rate				22.34
Illegitimacy Rate (% total of Live Births)				2.37
Total live & still births			172	

(b) <u>Still Births</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>Rate</u>
Total	2	1	3	
Legitimate	2	1	3	
Illegitimate	-	-	-	
Still Birth Rate (per 1,000 total live & still births)				17.44
Still Birth Rate (per 1,000 estimated resident population)				0.43

(c) <u>General Deaths</u> (excluding Still Births)		
All Causes		90
Death Rate (Crude)		12.93
Comparability Factor		0.74
Adjusted Death Rate		9.57
Maternity Deaths		Nil
Maternal Mortality (per 1,000 total live & still births)		Nil

(d) <u>Deaths of Infants under One Year</u>		
Total	2	
Legitimate	2	
Illegitimate	-	
Infant Mortality (per 1,000 live births)		11.83
Legitimate Infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births		29.07
Illegitimate Infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births		Nil

(e) <u>Principal Causes of Infant Deaths</u>		
Infection	1 (Lived 16 hrs.)	
Congenital	1 (Lived 10 mins.)	

(f) <u>Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age</u>		
Total	2	
Neo-natal mortality (per 1,000 total live births)		11.83

(g) <u>Deaths of Infants under 1 week</u>		
Total	2	
Early Neo-natal mortality (per 1,000 total live births)		11.83
Perinatal Mortality (Still births & deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live & still births)		11.63

(h) <u>Maternal Mortality</u>	
Total	Nil

(i) <u>Principal Causes of Deaths - All ages</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Percentage of Total Deaths</u>
Heart	21	20	45.56
Cancer	7	9	17.78
Respiratory	4	1	5.56
Cardio Vascular Disease of the Central Nervous System)	6	8	15.56

<u>Deaths from all Causes</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>1961</u> <u>Total</u>	<u>1960</u> <u>Total</u>
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	-	-	-	-
2. Tuberculosis, other forms	-	-	-	-
3. Syphilitic Disease	-	-	-	-
4. Diphtheria	-	-	-	-
5. Whooping Cough	-	-	-	-
6. Meningococcal Infections	-	-	-	-
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-
8. Measles	-	-	-	-
9. Other Infective & parasitic diseases	1	-	1	-
10. Cancer of stomach	2	2	4	2
11. Cancer of lung	2	1	3	-
12. Cancer of breast	-	2	2	1
13. Cancer of uterus	-	-	-	-
14. Other cancers	3	4	7	4
15. Leukaemia	-	-	-	-
16. Diabetes	-	-	-	-
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	6	8	14	20
18. Coronary disease	4	3	7	17
19. Hypertension with Heart Disease	-	1	1	2
20. Other heart disease	16	14	30	47
21. Other circulatory disease	1	2	3	1
22. Influenza	1	1	2	-
23. Pneumonia	1	-	1	2
24. Bronchitis	3	1	4	5
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	-	-	-	-
26. Ulcer of stomach & duodenum	-	-	-	-
27. Gastritis, enteritis & diarrhoea	-	-	-	-
28. Nephritis & Nephrosis	-	1	1	1
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	-	-	-	1
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-	-	-
31. Congenital malformations	-	1	1	1
32. Other defined & ill-defined diseases	3	2	5	3
33. Motor vehicle accidents	2	-	2	1
34. All other accidents	1	1	2	1
35. Suicide	-	-	-	-
36. Homicide & operations of war	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	46	44	90	109

Summary of Area StatisticsSTATISTICS 1961

	<u>Camborne- Redruth</u>	<u>Kerrier</u>	<u>Helston</u>	<u>Area No. 2 Total 1961</u>
<u>GENERAL</u>				
Area in Acres	22,411	90,989	4,017	117,417
Population	35,570	23,990	6,960	66,520
No. of inhabited houses	12,342	7,122	2,401	21,865
No. of Council houses	1,777	758	610	3,145
<u>VITAL</u>				
No. of Births	548	288	169	1005
Standardised Birth Rate	15.4	12.72	22.34	
No. of Still Births	11	6	3	20
Still Birth Rate (per 1,000 live and still births)	19.68	20.41	17.44	
Infant Deaths	14	10	2	26
Infant Mortality Rate	25.55	34.72	11.83	
Maternal Mortality	Nil	Nil	Nil	
No. of Deaths	494	268	90	852
Standardised Death Rate	12.64	11.06	9.57	
<u>PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH</u> (percentage of Total Deaths)				
(a) Infants under 1 year				
Congenital	0.36	0.68	0.58	
Prematurity	0.55	0.68	Nil	
Others	1.64	2.01	0.58	
(b) All Ages				
Respiratory	9.11	7.84	5.56	
Cancer	17.61	17.91	17.78	
Heart	38.66	41.42	45.56	
Cardio-Vascular Disease of the Central Nervous System	17.61	8.96	15.56	
<u>INFECTIOUS DISEASES</u>				
Tuberculosis				
Notifications -				
Respiratory	12	10	3	25
Non-Respiratory	3	2	2	7
Incidence Rate -				
Respiratory	0.34	0.42	0.43	
Non-Respiratory	0.08	0.08	0.29	
Death Rate -				
Respiratory	0.08	0.08	Nil	
Non-Respiratory	0.03	Nil	Nil	
Other Infectious Diseases				
Pneumonia	44	-	3	47
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ..	12	3	10	25
Measles	902	273	407	1,582
Whooping Cough	70	1	16	87

(Rates are given per 1,000 population)

SECTION B - General Provision of Health Services in the Borough

1. Local Sanitary Services (Helston Borough Council)

(a) Staff

Medical Officer of Health and Area Medical Officer

Dr. J.A.W. REID, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., M.R.S.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector

Mr. N.E. Whitby, A.I.R.S., A.F.S. (Eng), A.M.I.P.H.E., M.R.S.H.

Public Health Inspector

Mr. R.W. Bywaters, M.A.P.H.I., N.C.B.

Clerical Staff

Miss F. Barrett

Rodent Operator

Mr. J. Martin

Cornwall County Council Staff (Local Health Authority)

Clinic Doctor

Dr. I.R.S. Patterson, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Dentist

Mr. J.E. Kenney, L.D.S.

Assistant County Nursing Officer

Miss A. Howarth, S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N.S., H.V. Cert.

Health Visitors

Mrs. A. Horne

Miss P.M. Luckos (T.B. Health Visitor)

District Nurse/Midwives

Miss F.A. Accy

Mrs. G.R.E. Berry

Miss E. Blanks

Home Help Organiser

Mrs. A. Howe

Dental Attendant

Miss E. Lean

Mental Welfare Officers

Mr. F.A. Marks

Mr. J. Allan

Welfare Officers

Mr. T.H.E. Beckett

Mr. C. Clemo

Clerical Staff

Mr. D. May

Mrs. P.R. Phillips

Mrs. V.E. Paul

Miss E. Lee

One third of the Medical Officer's of Health time is devoted to the Personal Health Services which are the function of No. 2 Area Health Sub-Committee of the Cornwall County Council.

Under the Public Health Officers (Outside London) Regulations 1953, the salaries of the Medical Officer of Health, Chief Public Health Inspector and the District Inspectors, are contributed to by grants from the Ministry of Health.

(b) Laboratory Facilities

Pathological and bacteriological specimens requiring examination are sent to the Public Health Laboratory, Royal Cornwall Infirmary, Truro. Hereunder is a summary of the investigations carried out:-

Faeces & Urine - Water Undertaking Employees ... 8

(c) National Assistance Act, 1948 - (Amendment) Act, 1951 - Section 47

The Medical Officer of Health visited 3 persons in the course of the year, 2 females & 1 male. Their ages being 70, 76 & 86. In one instance an order for removal to hospital was made.

2. Local Health Authority Services

Personal Health Services

The following personal Health Services are provided under the National Health Service Act, 1946, by the Cornwall County Service and are administered through No. 2 Area Health Sub-Committee on which the Helston Borough is represented by 1 member and the Kerrier Rural District by 4 members.

(a) Care of Mothers & Young Children

Ante-Natal Supervision

Women who desire to have their babies at home are supervised during their pregnancy by their family doctor and the domiciliary midwife. Adequate and continuous ante-natal and post-natal care is essential if complications in labour and chronic ill health in later life are to be avoided. Most practices in the Helston Borough and Kerrier Rural district hold ante-natal clinics at their surgeries at which the midwife attends. Health education is available for these mothers.

Hospital

Hospital patients who have booked hospital beds attend the hospital outpatients clinic. Apart from emergency cases, bookings for hospital confinements are allocated according to the Ministry of Health priority groups, for medical or obstretical reasons and unsuitable home conditions. Patients who have been accepted for hospital confinements attend the hospital ante-natal clinic, but continue to be supervised at home by their family doctors. Mothers and babies are normally discharged home on the 10th. day after delivery to the care of the Health Visitor. The important post-natal supervision which every mother has, four weeks after delivery is carried out by their family doctor.

Ante-Natal Educational Classes are held at:-

<u>Place</u>	<u>When Held</u>	<u>Time</u>
Meneage House, Meneage Street, HELSTON.	2nd. & 4th. Thursday of each month	2.15 p.m.

Number of sessions held during 1961	21
Number of mothers attending during 1961	54
Number of attendances during 1961	293
Average attendance per session	14

Child Welfare Session held at:-

Meneage House, Meneage Street, Helston.	Every Wednesday - 2 to 4 p.m.
---	-------------------------------

The following table shows the number of infants and toddlers who attended the clinic and the number of visits these children made to the clinic throughout the year.

Children under 1 yr. 1st. Attd.	1st. Attd. during yr. of children born in			No. Attended			
	Present Year	Last Year	Previous 4 years	Under 1 yr.	Over 1 Under 2	Over 2 Under 5	TOTAL
152	100	104	43	1224	201	178	1603

Welfare Foods

Welfare Foods are distributed from the following centres.

Meneage House, Helston	The Pharmacy, Mullion
Helston Turnpike	Parc Wartha House, Mullion
Helston - Perry	The Stores, Porthleven
Gunwalloe,	Post Office, Breage
Mawgan Cross	The Vicarage, St. Keverne
The Lizard	Trenoweth, Ruan Minor
Manaccan	Post Office, Crowntown

Birth Control

Advice was given to 13 mothers during the year in the combined areas of Helston and Kerrier.

(b) Midwifery

There are 15 County Council midwives in the combined areas of Helston and Kerrier.

During the year they attended 231 confinements which represents 4.9% of the total births. Last year 235 expectant mothers had their babies in hospital.

	<u>Kerrier</u>	<u>Helston</u>
Born at Home	144	87
Born in Redruth Hosp.	137	82
Born in Nursing Home	13	3
<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>294</u>	<u>172</u>

20 cases were discharged from the Maternity Hospital or Nursing Home to the care of the domiciliary midwife prior to the 10th. day.

The following number of ante-natal and post-natal visits were made during the year.

	<u>Kerrier</u>	<u>Helston</u>
Post-natal	68	23
Ante-natal	2481	1268

Kerrier Rural District

	<u>Domiciliary</u>	<u>Hospital</u>	<u>Nursing Home</u>
Total Births	144	137	13
Fulltime	137	129	13
Stillbirths	1	5	-
Premature Stillbirths	1	1	-
Premature Livebirths	6	7	-
Neo-Natal Deaths	4	2	-
Other Infant Deaths	1	3	-

Helston Borough

	<u>Domiciliary</u>	<u>Hospital</u>	<u>Nursing Home</u>
Total Births	87	82	3
Fulltime	85	78	2
Stillbirths	-	3	-
Premature Stillbirths	-	1	-
Premature Livebirths	2	3	1
Neo-Natal Deaths	-	2	-
Other Infant Deaths	-	-	-

(c) Health Visiting

1 Health Visitor and 11 District Nurse/Midwife/Health Visitors work in the Helston and Kerrier areas, the following is a summary of the work carried out by them:-

<u>Domiciliary Visits</u>	<u>Helston</u>	<u>Kerrier</u>
Children under 1 yr.	1717	2559
Children 1 - 2 yrs.	541	938
Children 2 - 5 yrs.	943	2179
Aged & Infirm	158	1103
Other cases	11	15
Special Enquiries (Infant Deaths & Stillbirths)	4	4

Attendance at Clinics

Welfare Clinics	45	
Tuberculosis Clinics	109	(Combined)
Immunisations	31	34
Ante-Natal Educational Classes	18	-

Attendance at Schools

Medical Inspections	117	32
Cleanliness Inspections	31	174
Immunisation Sessions	3	-
Mothercraft	31	-

The Health Visitor is the General Social Worker responsible for advising all the families in her district and carries out the full range of duties in the Public Health and School Health fields, with the exception of tuberculosis visiting, venereal disease, contact tracing and supervision of handicapped persons. These latter tasks being allocated to specialist workers.

(d) Home Nursing

14 Home Nurses were engaged in district nursing in the combined areas during 1961, and they made 18,414 home visits.

The following table summarises their work:-

Medical	14,245
Surgical	1,878
Tuberculosis	1,101
Maternal Complications	303
Others	887

(c) Vaccination and Immunisation

The following table gives the number vaccinated and immunised at the clinics and by doctors in the areas.

<u>Kerrier</u>	<u>General Practitioners</u>	<u>Clinics</u>
Poliomyelitis - 2nd.	1029	23
Poliomyelitis - 3rd.	736	10
Poliomyelitis - 4th.	690	208
Diphtheria - Booster	9	-
Tetanus - Primary	27	23
Diphtheria/Whooping Cough/Tetanus - Primary	237	21
Diphtheria/Tetanus - Primary	6	2
Diphtheria/Tetanus - Booster	38	1
Tetanus - Booster	7	9
Diphtheria/Whooping Cough/Tetanus - Booster	29	-
Smallpox - Primary	125	11
Smallpox - Re-vaccination	5	-

<u>Helston</u>	<u>General Practitioners</u>	<u>Clinics</u>
Poliomyelitis - 2nd.	393	153
Poliomyelitis - 3rd.	487	92
Poliomyelitis - 4th.	483	118
Diphtheria - Booster	8	-
Tetanus - Primary	28	2
Tetanus - Booster	2	-
Diphtheria/Whooping Cough/Tetanus - Primary	132	54
Diphtheria/Whooping Cough/Tetanus - Booster	23	-
Diphtheria/Tetanus - Primary	18	-
Diphtheria/Tetanus - Booster	32	1
Smallpox - Primary	63	58
Smallpox - Re-vaccination	4	-

(f) Ambulance Service

During weekday working hours the County Ambulance Service from Tolvean Depot, Redruth, carries out all normal duties; at nights and at weekends cover is given by voluntary ambulance crew of St. John Ambulance Brigade at Helston, using their own ambulance.

All ambulances operating from the depot are wireless controlled and are thus instantly available wherever they may be. This frequently has enabled the Depot Controller to direct an already moving ambulance to the scene of an accident.

(g) Prevention of Illness, Care and After Care

(1) Nursing Equipment

Cases discharged from hospital and requiring after care are treated by the Home Nurse or supervised by the Health Visitor. Sick room equipment such as urine bottles, bedpans, bed rests, air cushions, mattresses, rubber sheeting, can be had on loan.

(2) Hospital - After Care

The Assistant County Nursing Officer liaises with the hospital staffs, background reports of home and social conditions are made available to the medically staff and advance requests are made for home nursing, home help and supervisory visits which the patient may require on discharge.

(3) Laundry Service

During the year arrangements were made with the West Cornwall Hospital Management Committee for dirty linen of incontinent patients to be carried out at Meneage House, Helston. It was not found necessary to call on this service this year.

(4) Welfare Workers

To carry out the provisions of the National Assistance Act, 1948, two Welfare Officers work in Area 2.

(5) Mental Health

Under the Mental Health Act, 1960, two Mental Welfare Officers provide for the admission to hospital of all mentally ill patients, and mentally subnormal persons, and their subsequent after care and rehabilitation in the community, and the care and after care at home.

(h) Domestic Help Service - Helston and Kerrier

At the beginning of the year 29 cases in Helston and Kerrier were being served by a Home Help, this increased by 4 by the 31st. December, 1961. There were 38 new cases during the year. Throughout the year the equivalent of 6 full time Home Helps were employed.

The following table shows the number and types of cases assisted during the year:-

Chronic Sick	36
Maternity	7
Tuberculosis	3
Others	15
<u>Total</u>	<u>61</u>

3. Hospital Services

(a) The local services are administered by West Cornwall Hospital Management Committee on behalf of the South Western Regional Hospital Board, and the following are the hospital services for the area:-

<u>Hospital</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>No. of Beds</u>		
Meneage Houses, Helston	Chronic Sick	Female	42	} 67
		Male	25	
Helston Cottage Hospital	General	Female	5	} 12
		Male	4	
		Private	1	
		Amenity	2	
Redruth	General	Female	50	} 93
		Male	23	
		Children	13	
		Private	5	
		Amenity	2	
Redruth	Maternity		56	
Barncoose	Geriatric	Female	110	} 134
		Male	24	
Tehidy	Chest	Female	40	} 122
		Male	71	
		Children	8	
		Private	3	

Infectious Diseases are admitted to St. Clements Hospital, Truro.

(b) Clinics

The Chest Clinic is situated at Falmouth Hospital, the times of the clinics are as follows:-

Chest Clinic	Every Monday except first	
New & Old Cases	Monday in the month	2 p.m.
Chest Clinic		
New & Old Cases	Every Monday	9 p.m.
Contact Clinic	First Monday each month	2 p.m.

The close co-operation between the Area Medical Officer and the Chest Physician has been maintained throughout the year. The Health Visitor responsible for domiciliary visiting of cases of tuberculosis also acts as Clinic Nurse at the weekly Chest Clinics. A Register of those patients requiring priority visiting and close supervision is kept in the Area Office. 9 new cases occurred in Kerrier and 5 in Helston during the year.

Venereal Disease Clinic

This clinic is held at Falmouth Hospital as follows:-

Males	...	Every Saturday	...	10 a.m.
Females	...	Every Tuesday	...	10 a.m.

(c) Mass X-Ray

A small unit visited Helston and Porthleven at the end of May. Distribution of publicity leaflets was through the Helston and District Free Gazette, an advertising broadsheet which is delivered free of charge. An advertisement also appeared in this broadsheet.

An opportunity was also taken to screen contacts of a case of tuberculosis notified in a factory worker in the Kerrier area. Only 6 people attended for examination and none of these showed any abnormality.

Details of those attending are given below:-

	<u>HELSTON</u>			<u>PORTHLEVEN</u>		
	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
No. of examinations	204	306	510	88	129	217
No. referred for further investigation	-	1	1	1	1	2
<u>Groups Examined</u>						
G.P. referrals	1	-	1	-	-	-
Public	203	306	509	88	129	217

(d) Blood Transfusion

With the rapid advance of surgical and anaesthetic techniques of the last few years, blood transfusion is becoming a vital part of modern treatment for accidents and disease. Donors are urgently required.

This service is run by the South Western Regional Transfusion Centre at Bristol. Sessions are arranged in any town, village or factory who can supply 80 or more volunteers.

Results of Donor Sessions - 1961

I am indebted to The Organising Director, Blood Transfusion Service, Plymouth, for the following details:-

	<u>No. of Sessions</u>	<u>Donors attending</u>
Helston ...	2	242

(e) Old Peoples Register

7 old persons, 6 females and 1 male were added to the register. At the end of the year the total number of old people known to the Public Health Department was 45.

Details of the new females and male are as follows:-

Years

62 yrs. of age	1	Female
71 - 75 yrs.	2	Females
76 - 80 yrs.	2	1 male & 1 female
81 - 85 yrs.	2	Females

Referrals

4 persons came to the notice of the Health Visitors in their districts. The 3 remaining cases were referred by neighbours.

Disability

5 suffered from frailty of old age, 2 from chronic illness.

Living Alone

All of the 7 persons lived alone.

Housing

Three of the cases lived in a terraced house, 2 in a Council Flat, 1 in a prefab and 1 in a cottage.

Assessment of Needs

In 1 instance health visiting supervision was all that was required, 1 case managed satisfactorily with neighbours or relatives help. It was necessary to provide a home help for 5 cases.

4. General Practitioners Service

12 doctors practice from surgeries in Kerrier and Helston.

There are two practices of two doctors, 1 practice of four doctors, and 4 practices with 1 doctor.

Environmental Hygiene(a) Water Supply.

(i) The quality of the water throughout the district has been satisfactory.

(ii) There was no record of any shortage during the year.

(b) The district is supplied by mains water from the Helston and Porthleven Water Company's reservoir's except for isolated farms and cottages. These are being investigated and where it is possible action is being taken to extend the piped supply.

Samples were taken from the supply points but none taken from the raw supply or water going into supply.

Bacteriological examination results were as follows:-

<u>No. of</u>	<u>Satisfactory</u>	<u>Reasonably</u>	<u>Unsatisfactory</u>
<u>Samples</u>		<u>Satisfactory</u>	
24	16	4	4

(c) The water in this district is extremely soft Ph Value 6.5 and to counteract any plumbo-solvency action lime is added.

(d) It was not found necessary to take action in respect of the public supplies.

(e)

(i) Water is supplied to the back of the dwellings by piped supply.

(ii) 20 houses are supplied from standpipes.

(f) Non Mains Supplies.

A farm cottage was found to be without mains supply and samples taken were found to be unsatisfactory. Formal notices were served upon the owners requiring a mains connection to be made. This has become the subject of negotiation between two different parties and it is hoped that agreement will be reached shortly

Sewerage and Sewerage Disposal.

The Borough is divided into two small townships, Helston and Porthleven

Helston was served in 1933 and a disposal works constructed to serve the then small agricultural town. In 1950, due to the growth of population brought about by the Admiralty Housing Estate, the disposal works was extended to cater for a population of 5,000.

The works are now overloaded because of this heavy increase in population caused by the popularity of Helston as a residential town and to its acting in a small way as a dormitory town for Falmouth, Camborne and Truro, to a high pollutive trade waste and to infiltration of sub-soil water into the sewers.

Tests are to be carried out in the near future to ascertain whether this infiltration can be traced and the Council's Consultants have been engaged to prepare a scheme of extension to cope with the increased and rapidly increasing population.

Experimental works have been carried out at the works to increase aeration of the effluent to bring about a better standard in the effluent, but it is imperative that improvements be carried out to improve the effluent which is discharged into the River Cober.

During the Summer period complaints were received of obnoxious smells in Meneage Street, Wendron Street and Godolphin Road, and inspections and tests are still going on to trace the source of these. It is thought that the old kennels may still be acting as sewers and so far several properties have been disconnected from the old Kennel and connected to the sewers.

Porthleven poses its own problems. The present system is overloaded at times of storm and several incidents of minor flooding have occurred in the past year. Here again the number of houses being built makes it imperative that improvements be carried out. In addition to which, the main trunk sewer to the outfall is an underground tunnel, constructed originally to discharge pumpings from mines to the sea, and it has been found that the roof and sides have collapsed in places. The outfall is by a covered channel cut through the rocks which discharge just above low water mark. This outfall becomes blocked at certain conditions of wind and tide with shingle causing surcharging of the trunk sewer with the increased danger of flooding, and pollution of the foreshore due to the sewage having to percolate through the shingle and flow down the beach.

The Council has approved a scheme of sewerage designed by their Consultants, Messrs. Harvey McGill and Hayes, and this has been forwarded to the Ministry. It was hoped that work would commence in 1962, but at the time of writing no enquiry has taken place and it would appear that work cannot start before the Spring of 1963 at the earliest.

A further scheme is being prepared for a dual system of surface water and foul water sewerage to serve the Council's new housing scheme, adjoining land which is ripe for development and to relieve the existing sewers by draining a portion of the built up area in Peverell Road and Peverell Terrace. It is hoped that this might be able to proceed at the same time as the scheme previously mentioned.

Public Health Inspection of the District.

A large number of visits and inspections were carried out during the year, due to pressure of work adequate routine inspections of many types of premises was not possible. A lot of work was carried out by personal contact, but some notices had to be served:-

Notices and Informal Notices Served:-

Public Health Act 1936.

Roof repairs	9
Drainage	2
Accumulations	1
General Nuisances	1

Shops Act 1950.

13 Visits were made during the year and 1 Notice served for lack of Sanitary accommodation

Housing Act 1957.

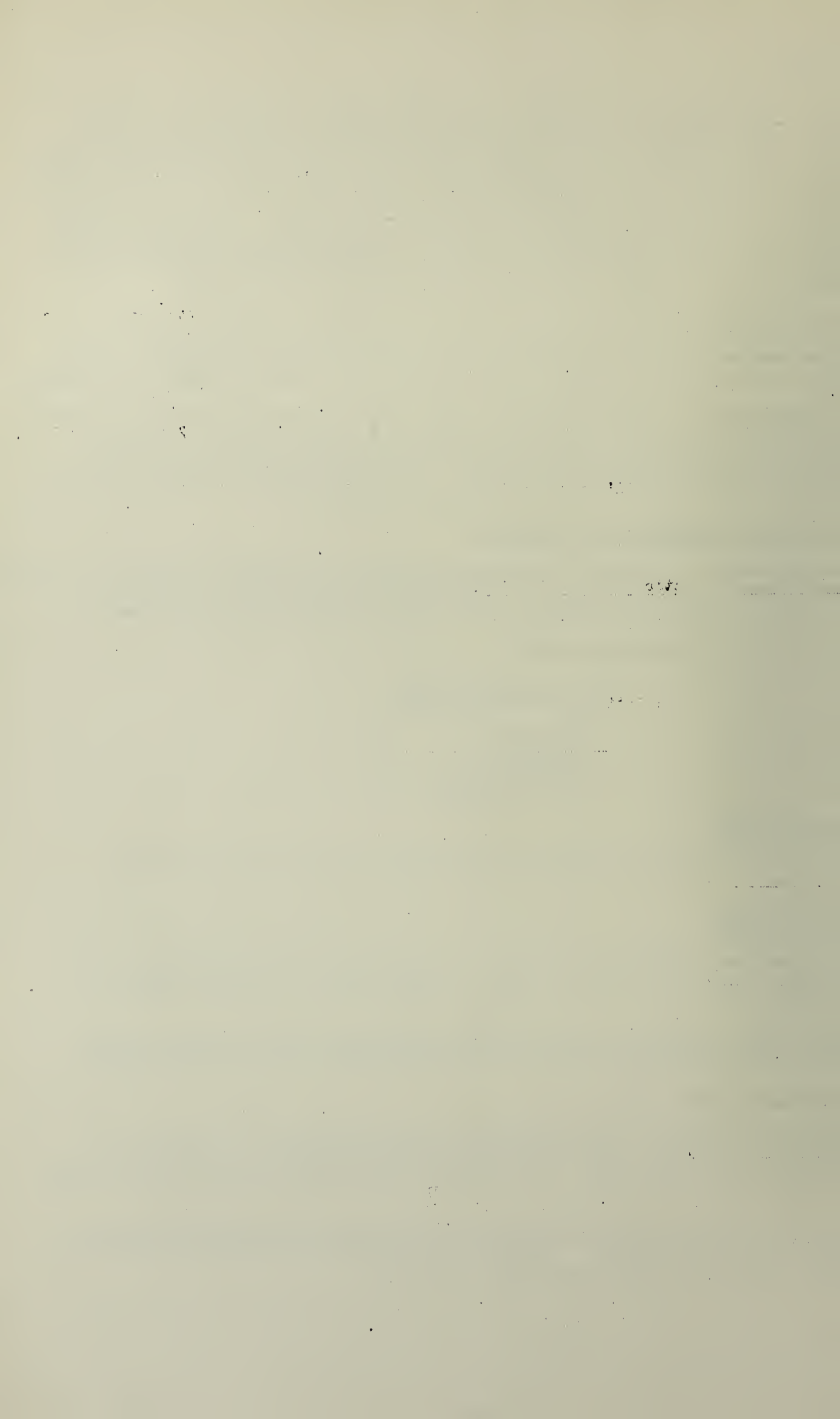
244 Visits were carried out in respect of premises for various reasons under the Housing Act, a further 82 Visits were made to Closed Premises or premises subject to undertakings.

It was found necessary to serve a notice under Section 9 of the Housing Act and discussions have taken place to apply an Improvement Grant as the other work proceeds.

Factories Act 1937.

There are 4 bakehouses in the borough and upon inspection one was found to be completely unsatisfactory. With co-operation from the department, new premises were found and the whole bakery moved. An alternative from coal to gas fired ovens was also carried out;

14 Visits and inspections were carried out and in two cases Sanitary Conveniences were found to be unsatisfactory: Plans have been deposited for improvements and it is hoped that work will be carried out in the coming year.



PART 1 OF THE ACT.

1 - INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises	Number on Register	Number of Inspections	Written notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities/	10	6	Nil	Nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	39	4	2	Nil
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	7	4	Nil	Nil
Total	57	14	2	Nil

Cases in which defects were found:-

Lack of cleanliness 2 (Premises to be closed when other premises completed)

Lack of W.C. accommodation 1(Plans deposited and work is due to start in 1962)

6. Clean Air Act 1956

Smoke nuisance 2(from bonfires)

7. Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949.

Rat Proofing 2 One case was of a serious nature and treatment is still proceeding.

8. Rag, Flock and other Filling Material Regulations.

There are no registered premises within the Borough.

9. Pet Animals Act 1954.

There are no premises within the Borough which come within this Act.

10. Visits and inspections to various premises during the year were:-

Sewage Plant	96	Refuse Tips	275
Housing Act	326	Council Houses	148
Disinfecti ns	3	Market	249
Public Conveniences	59	Rodent Control	13
Watercourses	85	Clean Air Act	3
Caravans	53	Other Public Health	
Building Byelaws	966	Visits not classified	352

For visits and notices re Food Premises see Section E.

11. Public Conveniences

59 visits were made concerning the present seven public conveniences provided in the borough.

It was hoped to provide a further two this year but due to extra work and financial control this has been deferred for twelve months.

2. Refuse Removal and Disposal.

During the year the Council decided to implement the practice of providing dustbins and charging for them on the rates. After much disquiet and grumbling by the public at the outset, things have settled down and the public are now responding well with the result that a great improvement is noticeable.

The Council has also on order a Dennis Paxit rear loading dustless, refuse lorry to replace the existing side loader; it is hoped that this will prove beneficial and help the people to become more tidy minded.

Refuse is disposed of by tipping. One cannot claim controlled tipping, although every effort is made to cover down the refuse because soil for covering is at a premium.

The Council has agreed to co-operate with adjoining authorities to try and find a satisfactory solution. Composting was thought to be the right answer, but the Ministry has rather frowned on this method of disposal. This is disappointing to the Borough, as with blood from the Slaughterhouse and sludge from the Sewage Works it was hoped that a useful contribution could have been made to the National economy. It may be that Helston Borough is far ahead of official policy and that we shall still see composting an approved method of disposal. At the moment the Borough and the adjoining Rural Authority are investigating the possibility of pulverisation as an answer to the uncontrolled "Controlled" method of tipping, and in the event of composting becoming an approved method of disposal this method will not be lost but be the first phase of such a method.

3. Rodent and Pest Control

Rodent Control One part-time operator is employed. Sewer treatment in Helston was carried out and a reduction in numbers of takes was noted. It is hoped that conditions will allow a treatment of Porthleven Sewers to be carried out.

Regular checks were made of tips and Water courses several major infestations were dealt with, but generally the district did not provide any serious problems.

Pest Control. Further complaints were received regarding cluster flies and after treatment, appeared to be resolved.

Fumigation was also carried out in respect of a Council House.

SECTION D.

Housing in the Area.

Private enterprise building has continued at quite a considerable pace throughout the year. Seventy houses were completed and plans have been approved for another Sixty-two houses and bungalows in the coming year. This is an even greater improvement on last year.

The Council have further encouraged owner occupation by making 100 per cent loans wherever possible. Many applications were received, 36 loans were made for a total of £72,585.

Negotiations have been completed for land to increase the number of units of accommodation for personnel stationed at Royal Naval Air Station, Culdrose, but final details as to the actual number of units to be built is still undecided.

Twenty units of accommodation were completed by Helston Borough with a further eight to be considered.

Ten acres of land were purchased in Porthleven for both Council and Private development. The first stage will be roads and sewers to be followed by Twenty-six houses and flats and 13 garages. This will greatly assist the reduction of the number of people still living in closed or condemned premises.

Slum Clearance has slowed down due to the lack of accommodation but it is hoped that as financial conditions improve so the Council will be able to proceed.

During the year seven houses were demolished and a further eighteen houses were either closed or formal Undertakings accepted from the owners. This is a slight improvement on last year.

At present there are 67 listed unfit houses in the area either awaiting improvement or demolition, of which Twenty-one are still occupied.

Building inspections have again increased in the past year; 966 inspections and visits were made, this being in addition to the scrutiny of deposited plans.

The County Planning Authority, working in close liaison with the Borough Council frequently required local observations on proposed development. This work, although routine, does take up a considerable amount of time.

Nineteen houses were improved with the assistance of grants during the year, this being about half the number given the previous year.

Non Traditional housing in the Borough consists of ten Prefabricated Bungalows, one of which will have to be demolished due to site works for a new estate.

Caravan Sites Act. 1960

A total of Fifty-three visits were made in respect of the eight licenced sites in the borough and generally the sites are undergoing improvements. As the amount of work to be done varies with each site it will be quite some time before we can see the required conditions complied with.

Rehousing of Old People

The Medical Officer of Health reported to the Committee that a new clinic will be erected in Helston on a site between Meneage Street and Trengrouse Way Car Park. It was recommended that a portion of this site be allocated for old people's bungalows and a Warden's house. At the time of the report 34 old people were being supervised by the Health Visitor in Helston, and the waiting lists for one bedroom bungalows were 9 in Helston and 10 in Porthleven. It was recommended that the Committee give consideration to the erection of a Warden's unit for old people on this site.

SECTION E

1: Supervision of Food.

Visits to food premises were as follows:-

Slaughter House	952.
Food Premises, (including ice cream Dealers)	135
Public Houses and Hotels	50

Intimations were served in respect of:-

Food Hygiene Regulations	3
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The number of visits and inspections show an increase on last year.

Hotels and Boarding Houses were made a special point and it was found necessary to serve one informal notice, over-all the standard was high and this appears to be quite a good thing for an area relying largely on visitors.

Food stuffs condemned after voluntary surrender were destroyed or disposed of under the supervision of the Public Health Inspectors.

The amount of unsound food from shops and stores was:-

1 cwt. 1 lb. 7 oz. assorted Tinned and other Meat Products.
39 lbs. assorted Jams.
50 lbs. Currants (Mouldy)
2 lbs. 15 oz. Fish.

2: Milk

This was subject of new legislation midway during the year which resulted in the licencing being taken over by the Cornwall County Council and the local authority being now only responsible for the registration of the premises as being suitable for the sale of milk.

An inspection was carried out in conjunction with the County Public Health Inspector of all the licensed dairymen to ensure that in the event of afternoon deliveries of milk commencing, Cold stores would be available. This has meant each dairyman either purchasing a cold store or having one built, and it is expected that all work will be completed early next year.

3: Ice Cream

Three premises were registered during the year for the sale and storage of ice cream. The total number of premises now registered is:-

Manufacturers	1
Ice Cream Dealers.	45

Thirty Nine samples were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory with the following results:-

<u>Produced.</u>	<u>No. of samples.</u>	<u>Group 1.</u>	<u>2.</u>	<u>3.</u>	<u>4.</u>
In the Borough	19	19	-	-	-
Outside the Borough	20	16	4	-	-

These samples show a considerable improvement on past years. The Local manufacturer has on the advice and suggestions made by the department improved the standard of his ice cream to the extent that they were all Grade I

Several samples were taken similar to last year of ice cream washing water and generally they were found to be satisfactory. This would appear to indicate that attempted education is having some effect.

Meat Inspection.

Most of the animals slaughtered in Helston Slaughter House are for export to other areas.

40,034 animals were inspected out of a kill of 42,449. This is a slight improvement on last year due to more visits being made with the necessary increase in car mileage.

This is the first year of the Slaughterhouses Act and has been a year of finding out the teething troubles. Due to a shortage of trained staff at the Slaughter House it was found that work could not be completed by the appointed day. Extra pressure has been applied and extra work has been carried out.

The proposal that Cornwall should be 100 per cent attested has resulted in a considerable number of reactors being sent to Helston Slaughter House which is an examination centre of the Ministry of Agriculture. Nearly 400 reactors were inspected and over 54 per cent were found to contain lesions of tuberculosis, which proves how necessary the Ministry's policy is.

A further increase in the number of animals found to be infected with *Cysticercosis* over last year was noted, attempts to find the reason is not proving easy.

In contrast to the last paragraph a reduction has been noted in the number of pigs affected with tuberculosis *Avion* or otherwise. It is hoped that this will continue.

Details of Carcases and Offal inspected and Condemned.

	Pigs	Cows & Bulls	Horses & Steers	Calves	Sheep
Number inspected	31,517	630	1,615	1,873	4,399
Number slaughtered	32,494	636	1,616	1,955	5,748
<u>All diseases CONDEMNED</u> <u>except Tuberculosis &</u> <u>Cysticercosis</u>					
Whole carcases	71	29	2	20	25
Part "	67	44	45	4	4
Offal "	265	93	64	4	32
<u>Tuberculosis</u>					
Whole carcases	10	34	-	4	-
Part "	227	49	32	6	-
Offal "	67	112	57	6	-
<u>Cysticercosis</u>					
Whole Carcases	-	1	3	-	-
Part "	-	6	15	-	-
Offal "	-	5	10	-	-

Total weight condemned :- 17 tons 12 cwt. 3 qtrs. 16 lbs.

SECTION F - General Epidemiology

The total number of infectious diseases notified during 1961 was 282 compared with 8 in 1960. The increase is accounted for by the increase in the cases of measles.

Puerperal Pyrexia

The number of Helston mothers confined in hospital and developing Puerperal Pyrexia was three. None of these cases occurred in domiciliary confinements.

The Maternity Unit at Redruth serves the whole of the County. 1,605 births were notified and 54 cases of Puerperal Pyrexia occurred. This gives an incidence of 34 cases per 1,000 births. Just over half of the cases occurred between June and November.

Pulmonary Tuberculosis

3 cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were notified throughout the year, giving a case incidence of 0.43 per 1,000 population.

12 contacts of these new notifications were investigated giving a contact rate of four persons per notified case. The table below shows the type of contact investigated.

<u>Household Contacts</u>	<u>Consented</u>	<u>Refused</u>
Pre School Children	3	-
School Children	3	-
Adults	5	-
Adolescents	1	-

(a) Notifiable Diseases during the Year 1961

Disease	Undr.	1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-34	65+	Adm. to Hosp.	Total 1961	Total 1960	Incr or Decr
Measles	10		29	39	37	32	120	2	1	1	-	3	273	2	+ 271
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	-		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	3	1	+ 2
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	-		-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	2	-	+ 2
Acute Encephalitis	-		-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	+ 1
Scarlet Fever	-		-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	2	1	+ 1
Whooping Cough	-		1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-

(a) Notifications of Infectious Diseases during 1961

Disease	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	Jul	Aug	Sept	Dec	Males	Females	Total
Measles	1	3	18	18	62	138	31	2	-	-	134	139	273
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	1	2	3
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2
Acute Encephalitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	1
Scarlet Fever	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	2
Whooping Cough	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1

